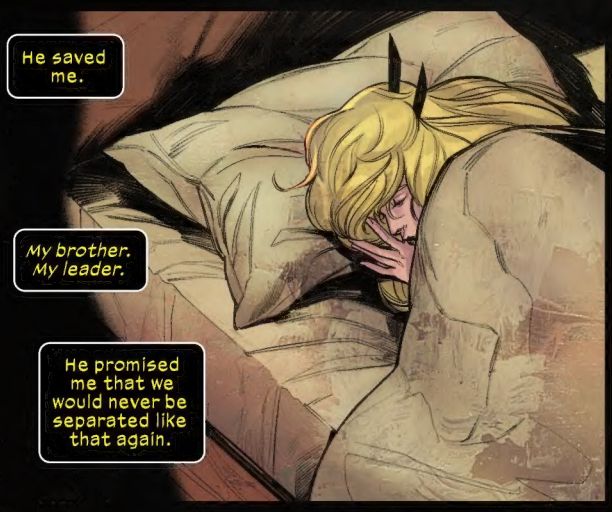
MARVEL
ULTIMATE
WOLVERINE
16
CONDON
CAPPUCCIO | VALENZA
APR. 2026 | RATED T+

Time worked differently in Limbo. A day on Earth was a week there.
Papa!
My disappearance tore my family apart.
This wasn't a difficult thing to accomplish. Life itself had started the work not long before.
Papa, alone since Mama died a year prior, became ill. He lost the will to speak. He never found it again.
But Piotr refused despair. With Mikhail away in our government's space program, he gathered the men from the village and formed search parties.
But I was gone without a trace.
So he sought... alternative methods.
He turned to darkness for light, locating rare occult texts and conjuring spells.
In other words: magic.
Hear me...
Black magic.
As they are wont to do, the dark powers obeyed...
...and he found his way in.

He wandered those haunted halls alone, in search of me.
When he found me, I was... *changed.*
The darkness had taken root inside of me and I had petrified. An armored *self.* A vision of what I needed to be to exist and rule in this realm.
I had become a *Dark Child.*
But Piotr did not care what I had become.
He only cared that I was *me.*
And his love and devotion...
...It was enough.

He took me in his arms and brought me home--the Illyana he knew. He promised to keep me safe.
Family, he said, was *everything.*


He saved me.
My brother. My leader.
He promised me that we would never be separated like that again.

And though the Phoenix Specimen would later try her best to do so in the bowels of the Kremlin's *Cerebellum*...
...I had made another promise. This one to myself...

...that nothing--not even *death itself*--could stand in the way of family.
And so, when I fled a burning Moscow for Limbo, I realized that those traitors I had imprisoned for punishment could, in turn, become my *fuel.*

I could rebuild a life, free of the Maker's influence. A new chance at a new, different world--*one for us.*
My promise would be kept.
And the Rasputins would at last know *peace.*

Balga Castle, E.R.
We tracked Rasputin to the north. I saw it in a vision when I'd gone feral again. Gone *wild*.
There's an entrance to her realm here. *Limbo*. Problem is, we just couldn't seem to find it.
Checked every nook n' cranny. Knocked on every wall. Opened every door. Uncovered every *secret passage*. For God knows how long, we poked n' prodded, but...
...nothin'.

Then we had to start gettin'... *creative*.
We went down to the local village a week ago. Jean said she wanted to try somethin' *unconventional*.

Locals've helped us before. Some 'a them look at us like *saviors*. Others see us as an extension of the people who oppressed 'em.
ЗАКРЫТО
Didn't matter what we did or said. We were *them*. *Mutants*.

Unconventional. Just like Jean's plan.
You...
Jean knew that the door to Rasputin-- the door to savin' those folks she stole-- wasn't gonna be accessible to us 'less we popped open a bottle 'a her own weird potion n' swallowed it down.

Down the rabbit hole, as the sayin' goes.
...I know what you seek...
Well, we tumbled n' fell straight down it. Didn't need a push. Hell, we jumped right in.

NOW! The door is not open for long!
SNIKT
The way the mage Senna told it was that there were some places that were *thinner*. Like, reality itself, I mean. The thinner your reality, the closer you were to another universe 'r dimension.
Tt--
Give it freely!
But reality grows scar tissue jus' like me 'r you. Those thin spots close up. So ya gotta find 'em quick.
Ain't easy to do. 'Less you got a buddy with all the knowledge in the known universe pumped into a Sentinel...
There is little time...!
I hope this works...
But some places are like a festering wound. Won't heal 'cause it *can't* heal.
Balga Castle is like that. It's a place where people hear n' see things. Where people disappear. Where people go *mad*.
PLIP PLIP PLIP
An' that's why we're here. We can get to Rasputin here because she can close her damned portal behind her...
Yessss...it's working...!
What do we do now?
...but she can't lock a door she ain't got a key to.
We watch...
It's all an illusion of safety. Of *power*.
But we've opened our eyes...
...an' we ain't closin' 'em again.

SSSSSSSSSS
FWOOOOOOSH
Gah--!
FROOSHHH
FROOSSSSH
Whoa--
There it is...
...Limbo.

Who goes first?
Heh.
You're funny.
WOOOOOOOSH
Rrrr...

SNFF
SNFF
C'mon down. It ain't safe, maybe, but...
...it's clear.
SNFF
SNFF
This way.
They're... They're close... I can--

Oh my God.
Nnnn...
P-p-p-pleeeeease...
The stolen people.
Wolverine, they're here! Look at them, come help me with--
SNFF
SNFF

Why are you stopping?
What is it?
I dunno... not yet.
Take care 'a these folks. Start bringin' 'em to the portal. Load 'em into Numero Uno.
I'll check this out on m' own.
You forgot what the word "team" means...?
I'll help them, sure, but then I'll find you.
No going it alone.
'Kay, boss.
Th-thank you... She's been...been draining us... We thought... We thought... Oh God...
Just stay still, okay? I've got you.
SSSSSSSSSS

SKRNCH
Hrm?
Snow...
SKRNCH
What the...?
CHOK
CHOK

RRRRRRRRRRRRR...
KRAKRUNNCH
I don't get it... He must've seen me...

Where the hell am I...?
KREEEEK

There you are...
Time to--
Um... Excuse me, mister...?
Huh...?
Did you come to play?

You're safe now. All of you.
Th-thank you.
Sent-One is going to transport all of you home, okay? He looks like one of them--like a Sentinel--but he's one of the good guys. I promise.
O-okay.
Come, child.
This is the last of them. You can take off as soon as she's loaded and start returning them to their families.
You. Will. Stay?
Yeah. Wolverine's still down there. I can't leave him.
How long till the portal closes?
Sunrise will wash it away.
Not much time, then. You should go. Get some rest.
And what about you...?
Can't rest. Not yet.

That's okay. Can you read me a story instead?
Just one story.
I...
Please?
Just one story...
...just one before I go to sleep?

Wolverine!
Where are you?!
Where... are...?
There! No... H-he's not alone. It's--she's still alive. He's in--
[redacted]. I'm coming!
FWOOOOOOOSH

Whatever you went through down here...
FWUM
Th-the energy... It's gone. What did you--?
...it's no excuse for all the pain you've caused up there.
NO!
No portals. No escape. You get what you gave.
SNIKT
This is for the muzzle.

Just-- just one person now. That means--
RRuuuuuuuuuuuMMMMMMMMMM
Jean?! Damn it, the hell're you doin' here?! Go back! The dimension is collapsing!
Not without you!
RRuuuuuuuuuuuMMMMMMMMMM
Here--
Your hands-- nn-- burn.
Sorry.
RUUUUMMM
It'll just be a minute.
RRuuuuuuuuuuuMMMMMMMMMM
FWOOOOF
Nn--!

KABOOOOOOM
Nn... That was... that was close.
Yeah, but...sun's rising.
I think that's a good sign.
It's nice... But it ain't over yet. Ya know that.
You mean...
The Maker. Yeah.
Everything that's happened. Every horrible thing...it all goes back to that snail-headed [redacted].
Yeah. Yeah, I know. But...for right now, let's just enjoy the victory, okay?
Victory, huh? How's that supposed to feel?
Something like...
...this.
FWOOOOOOOSH
END.